

Message Text

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SUBJEWT: HIGHLIGHTS

1. ATMOSPHERICS:

- SPECULATION OVER NEXT PREMIER AND GOVERN-
MENT CHANGES LESSENER THIS WEEK AND MEDIA
ATTENTION SHIFTED TO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CON-
FERENCE AND NATIONAL COMMEMORATION THIRD ANNI-
VERSARY CHIANG KAI-SHEK'S DEATH. U.S. CHINA
POLICY REMAINED IN NEWS, FOCUSING MAINLY ON
POSSIBILITY OF PRC VISITS BY ADMINISTRATION
OFFICIALS. BASED ON CSM REPORT THAT CARTER
MIGHT VISIT PRC NEXT YEAR, UNITED DAILY NEWS
(LIEN HO PAO; 600,000) CARRIEVI DISPATCH FROM

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT QUOTING "U.S. OFFICIAL"
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AS SAYING CHINA POLICY HAD NOT REACHED POINT FOR
PRESIDENTIAL VISIT BUT POSSIBILITY EXISTED WITHIN
PRESENT TERM. OFFICIAL REPORTEDLY ACKNOWLEDGED
1979 MOST APPROPRIATE YEAR SINCE 1980 ELECTION
YEAR. DISPATCH ALSO NOTED ABSENCE OF CARTER
PLEDGE NOT TO VISIT PRC FIRST IN WHITE HOUSE
RERUN OF CARTER CAMPAIGN PROMISES ISSUED IN

FEBRUARY. CHINA TIMES (CHUNG KUO SHIH PAO; 530,000) PLUS CNA FOLLOWED WITH REPORTS

THAT, ACCORDING TO DOS/EA SPOKESMAN CANNON, NEITHER VANCE NOR BRZEZINSKI HAD PLANS TO VISIT PRC BUT THIS DID NOT RULE OUT POSSIBILITY OF KREPS OR SCHLESINGER GOING. UNITED DAILY NEWS ADDED TO SPECULATION WITH REPORTS:

1) DN STORY IN APRIL 10 ISSUE OF TIME MAGAZINE ALLEGING BRZEZINSKI'S DESIRE TO VISIT PRC THIS YEAR DESPITE VANCE'S DISAPPROVAL, AND
2) QUOTING WASHINGTON POST'S JAY MATHEWS TO EFFECT WASHINGTON OFFICIALS HAD TOLD MATHEWS IN INTERVIEWS THEY EXPECTED ACTIVE U.S.-PRC TALKS NEXT YEAR.

- ROC PURCHASES OF U.S. WEAPONS ALSO REMAINED IN NEWS. CHINA TIMES VIA WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT REPORTED "STATE AND DEFENSE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS" AS SAYING ROC HAD BETTER CHANCE OBTAINING F-16 FIGHTERS THAN F-18 AS LATTER STILL UNDER CONSTRUCTION KDO DESIGNED AS CARRIER AIRCRAFT. THE PAPER CARRIED ADDITIONAL REPORT ON INFORMATION RELEASED BY MSRC WHICH DOUBTED U.S. WILL SELL OBC TEN NAVAL VESSELS - MOST OF WHICH UNCLASSIFIED

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ALREADY ON LOAN TO ROC.

- PRESIDENT CARTER'S LATIN AMERICA-AFRICA TRIP RECEIVED STEADY COVERAGE ON INSIDE INTERNATIONAL PAGE THROUGHOUT DURATION OF TRIP BASED ON WIRE SERVICE ACCOUNTS PLUS RADIO-PHOTOS.

- ROC PUBLICATIONS CAME UNDER REVIEW AGAIN. PAPERS REPORTED GIO DIRECTOR'S REMARKS TO LEGISLATIVE YUAN, VOWING TO IMPROVE QUALITY OF PUBLICATIONS BY STRICTER SCREENING OF NEW APPLICATIONS AND OFFERING MORE GUIDANCE TO EXISTING ONES. DIRECTOR REPORTED ROC HAD 31 DAILY NEWSPAPERS, 44 NEWS AGENCIES, 1,556 MAGAZINES, AND 1,618 PUBLICATIONS FIRMS.

2. PROGRAM ACTIVITIES:

- EIGHTY-PERSON UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN AT RIVER FALLS CONCERT CHOIR GAVE FOUR PERFORMANCES IN TAIWAN DURING PAST WEEK, IN KAOHSIUNG, TAIPEI AND CHANGHUA, LARGE TOWN IN CENTRAL

TAIWAN.

IN TAIPEI PART OF HALL RENTAL WAS PAID
FOR BY TOKEN US\$1,000 GRANT FROM CU. LOCAL
SPONSDRS WERE PACIFIC CULTURAL FOUNDATION,
CHINA YOUTH CORPS AND SOOCHOW UNIVERSITY.
PERFORMANCE IN TAIPEI ATTENDED BY AMBASSADOR
UNGER AND OTHER EMBASSY OFFICERS AND REACTION
FROM 2,500 PERSON AUDIENCE GOOD. CHOIR DIRECTOR
SWENSON EXPRESSED HOPE THAT PERFORMING ARTS
GROUP FROM ROC COULD VISIT RIVER FALLS IN 1979.
AYERS

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